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Georgia Southern University Holds Fall Commencement

DECEMBER 16, 2011



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Georgia Southern University awarded nearly 1,300 degrees during its fall commencement ceremonies today at Hanner Fieldhouse.

The University awarded bachelors, masters, and doctoral degrees during three ceremonies. Graduates included traditional students who entered college right out of high school as well as students who returned to the classroom after time in the workforce. A number of students who pursued online education also received degrees at today's ceremonies.

The Honorable Faye Sanders Martin, who graduated from Georgia Southern University when it was Georgia Teachers College, was the speaker for the day's first ceremony. Martin was the first female attorney in Bulloch County, Ga., the first woman appointed to the Georgia Superior

Court bench, and the first female chief superior court judge in the state, addressed graduates at the first ceremony of the day.

Martin told the graduates to think, "Why not me?" when pursuing their goals and professional pursuits, even if those goals seemed well out of reach. Martin also told the audience that one key to success is a dedication to the truth. "Believe in it and seek it and always speak it and you will re-kindle the American dream," she said.

E. Lynne Weisenbach, who currently serves as Vice Chancellor for Educator Preparation, Innovation and Research at the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia and

Dick Escue, senior vice president and chief information officer for RehabCare Group also served as speakers at today's ceremonies.



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Georgia Southern University Jiann-Ping Hsu College of Public Health Receives Donation from Noted Harvard University Biostatistician

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Georgia Southern University's Jiann-Ping Hsu College of Public Health (JPHCOPH) recently received a \$5,000 donation from Harvard University biostatistician Marvin Zelen, Ph.D. The donation was made to the College's Karl E. Peace Biopharmaceutical Applied Statistics Symposium Endowment.

Zelen and Peace both were attending the 18th annual Biopharmaceutical Applied Statistics Symposium in Savannah, Ga. Peace founded the symposium in 1994 and Zelen served as the 2011 keynote speaker. The donation resulted from conversations with Karl Peace, Ph.D., Georgia Southern professor and Georgia Cancer Coalition Distinguished Cancer Scholar. Zelen noted that his donation was made in honor of Peace's contributions to public health.

Zelen currently serves as the Lemuel Shattuck Research Professor of Statistical Science and member of the faculty of Arts and Sciences at Harvard's School of Public Health. Among Zelen's many accomplishments, he founded the department of biostatistics at Harvard and served as chair of the department for many years. He also founded the Division of Biostatistics and Epidemiology at the Dana Farber Cancer Institute and the Frontier Science & Technology Research Foundation. Among his many prestigious awards is The American Cancer Society's highest honor, the Medal of Honor. The award is presented to Americans who have made outstanding contributions to the fight for a world with less cancer.

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